

## SMART FROCKS FOR THE WINTER SPORTS



material of the costume the smarter will be. For all outdoor wear rough shaggy materials are most in vogue, but in skating dresses the wearers of all rough cloths have surpassed themselves, and the long haired, shaggy, beautifully woven and deliciously warm textures that are now to be bought do credit to their makers. Even the very youngest girls wear their suits of the heaviest of woollen goods, while the costumes of the older girls, whose gowns follow more closely the prevailing fashions of the moment, consist of delightfully smart skating costumes in adorable warm shades of red, deep pink, all tones of blue, green and deep wood color in heaviest Scotch tweed.

Perhaps it is because of the present fashion which makes all jackets short, the really sensible length for a skating coat, that the skating dresses this year are all so extremely smart. The coat should be sufficiently long to give warmth below the waist, but not so long as to retard action in the sport. A Norfolk jacket is always a good model for a rough country suit and is especially good for a smart model for a skating suit showed a

THE coat collar and revers may be of velvet or silk, but many of the smartest models have only a self-facing on the collar, to which a fitted fur piece may be attached, or not, at will. This certainly is a year of fur and there is no limit to the amount of fur that may adorn a costume. The more fur on the jacket the warmer of course, and for outdoor skating this is distinctly an advantage, but a border of fur about the end of the skirt is best avoided. Unless sewn on with thread of iron there is always the risk of the end of the skirt catching through the fur and causing a nasty tumble. For this same reason any trimming such as braid or folds or bands of material is not to be advised as a means of adorning the end of a skating skirt.

Imitation seal, or French seal, as it is more generally called, is becoming more fashionable as a trimming on coats and skirts as the winter advances, and as this is not an expensive fur it is not inappropriate for a schoolgirl. A delightfully smart model for a skating suit showed a



FROM all present indications of the weather man this is destined to be a long and cold winter, at least this is what generally results when snowstorms and zero weather start in as early in December and last as long spells as has been the case this year. And a long, cold winter provides plenty of sleighing and skating and all that goes to make the winter season a time of special fun.

Skating costumes now occupy the attention of all ages therefore from the schoolgirl to the young married woman. Nor need the occasional warmer days mislead any to the point of thinking that a smart skating dress can be dispensed with, and those who work on this theory and leave their costume out of their winter outfit will miss many a day of fun, or else if they attempt to clad themselves in "any old gown" will feel sadly uncomfortable when they join the smartly dressed crowds on the fashionable club lake or private pond.

For this year, with its most peculiar fashions, it is almost impossible to make the ordinary walking suit serve in the skating rink or pond, as the narrow skirts worn even by schoolgirls will allow of no movement so free as the long athletic trides of the graceful skater. The skating skirt of to-day is quite a marvellous example of dressmaking art, for it combines with absolutely straight lines, obtained by straight instead of bias side panels, sufficient fullness to make skating as simple as it was in the days of the side plaited model. The interesting part of the new skirt, too, is that it is really easier and more comfortable for all kinds of exercise than the old skirt, which contained so much fullness that the extra folds and plaits of material were continually hampering the wearer.

The necessary plaits about the feet in the skating skirt of the present winter are hidden beneath wide double box plaits which hang perfectly straight ordinarily, but open out full and just as wide as desired when active exercise is indulged in. Every kind of skirt fits flat and snug about the waist and hips, and the skating skirt is no exception to this rule. But for skating the skirt must not be drawn back so flat that it will strain in the long strides or tear when the occasional unavoidable tumbles strain every seam. Most new skirts for general wear do not have the Empire belt line, but are finished at the waist with an inch and a half wide stitched belt of the material of the rest of the suit.

For outdoor skating the rougher the

skating dress, as with its fitted belt it is warmer than the loose coats, yet still looks quite up to date. It is almost unnecessary to say that the simpler the skating dress the better style it will be

## SOCIAL AMENITIES FOR THE SCHOOL GIRL

ONCE again comes the time for splendid resolutions and the opportunity of beginning all over again to make of one's self a quite perfect being. It has always seemed so fortunate that the time of making these fine resolves should come at a season when every one is in exactly the right mood to help one's efforts along.

At the Christmas season there surely cannot be a single person who is not so imbued with the spirit of the Christmas idea that he or she does not unconsciously turn over a new leaf and determine to show all who have been so kind and thoughtful with their gifts and expressions of good will that their advances are appreciated. And then just a week after Christmas day comes the beginning of the new year, when one sees stretching ahead vistas of days to come that may be filled with happiness or discontent exactly in proportion as one rises to meet them.

In making the new year resolves it could be well to be governed as completely as possible by a sense of the Christmas feeling. To practise "good will to all" right through an entire year would of itself make a lovely and loving character. One who practises good will to all soon comes to feel kindly disposed and ready to pardon and excuse even those who formerly one had disliked most cordially. Take the old method of turning the argument against one's self. Without doubt he one against whom the ill will is felt feels a strong dislike in return, and the reason for one is probably no more unreasoning than for the other. A girl who genuinely wishes to feel good will to every one will make an especial effort to make all whom she personally does not care for become fond of her, and she will be surprised at how soon a feeling of real affection will ensue on her part in almost every case.

If she can really practise good will it will be astonishing how little difficulty she will experience with all her other old faults that formerly caused her no end of worry and bother. A person imbued with a spirit of good will cannot commit any great unkindness, cannot even be rude, for the unkindness and rudeness, like every other fault, reflect upon some one else and cause them unhappiness or discomfort. The popular girl may owe some of her attraction to her beauty, some to her natural charm, some perhaps to a brilliant mind, but three-quarters of it must come from her good will to her friends. Unconsciously she makes her friends feel that she is interested in them, wants them to have the best in life, and if there is anything she can do to help at any time this girl is always ready. She radiates good will and her friends give her the best they know.

The girl who knows the meaning of good will to all could not be small. She is too anxious to make those about her happy to be able to do the little things that hurt or say the little things that wound. She never tries to give the impression of how splendid a time she is having or has had at a time when she knows her listener has not had the same admiration. She could not be small about money matters either, for she will always want to keep from the friend who has not so large an allowance as herself all realization of the difference. Generosity is but one of the minor attributes which come naturally to the girl who has taken as her New Year resolution the sole determination to keep alive throughout the year the beautiful message of Christmas.

The spirit of Christmas is to give, to give literally everything in one's power to all whom one meets, but gifts bought with gold are a small part indeed of this divine spirit of giving. The gift expresses the thought that the donor wishes to please,

and surely this idea can be carried out in a thousand different ways through the year. But it is the giving of one's self which counts, the giving of one's mind and personality to one's friends whenever that help is wanted.

Often a girl is heard to wonder why it is that certain of her friends are so much more popular than others. Any number of her other friends a girl will know to be just as fine of nature, often much stronger of character, than those who naturally attract at first meeting and make hosts of new friendships every year. Invariably the girl who attracts immediately, and then keeps these friends through thick and thin, is one who gives herself spontaneously to all who seek. When sympathy is wanted she has it in store to give, for she is genuinely interested in each person who comes to her. First and foremost, however, she is not afraid of being personal. She trusts her friends and instinctively they guard her secrets and are always loyal to her.

It is those who never trust their friends with the part of themselves which they value who are not in return trusted. It is necessary to give of one's own experiences, ideas and ideals before one can hope for a like trust from others. Nor will the little secret aims and hopes lose by being shared with others. On the contrary, they will only broaden and grow finer by being allowed a glimpse at another point of view.

For her own sake, then, as well as for the sake of those with whom she comes in contact during the year, let her adopt a resolution to keep on with the spirit of Christmas throughout the whole twelve months, that at the end of that time it may be proved whether or not she who has sincerely practised this doctrine has got more out of life, has won more friends, is herself a happier girl because of the resolve taken on the first day of the new year.

Unless it is bitterly cold a muff is generally dispensed with on the ice and the hands are kept warm by woollen mittens or heavy white knitted gloves worn over the fur lined kid gloves. A loose fur collar is also very much in the way, so that the fur neckpiece should really be attached to the collar of the coat. The ears are kept delightfully warm this year by the new little fur toques which fit well down over the head and can be pulled entirely over the ears if desired. The cool skin caps made so that the brim can be rolled down over the ears or else rolled back against the crown make the warmest of all kinds of caps for skating. The snug little knitted caps which can be drawn right down to the eyes if it is very cold indeed are also delightful for skating, as they are almost as warm as the fur and stay on in the strongest gale without the need of hat pin or veil. A silk hunting veil or a knitted fleece veil will prove the greatest comfort in zero weather and some such protection for the skin is a really necessary precaution.

The smart skating boot of the year is of russet leather, laced and much higher than the ordinary walking boot. The skate is of course screwed to the shoe. The necessity of having the shoes sufficiently laced cannot be too strongly emphasized, as one day of skating in too small a boot will prove beyond further paucity.

For indoor or rink skating the costume is of a slightly different order. Corduroy, velvet and often decidedly light colored cloth gowns are in the majority in a skating rink, and these

gowns have smart hats and furs to correspond. Of course, there is not the danger of frequent tumbles in a rink, where a rather more sedate form of skating must be observed than on an outdoor pond. The danger of catching cold is far greater in a rink than out of doors and practically the most necessary part of a costume is a smart wrap that is to be doctored the moment the skater sits down for a few moments' rest. The rink itself generally proves, if anything, too warm while one is actually skating, and a dress throughout in cloth or corduroy is more comfortable to wear than a coat and skirt costume. A gown of rough tweed trimmed with bands of fur and worn with a small fur hat of the same skin is especially pretty when there is provided to go with it a long wrap of the same fur. The gown, however, should be of the simplest model conceivable, even if the material is velvet, for the idea of the appropriate must still be adhered to.

Corduroy is the favorite material of the winter; of that there is no question, and it is now made up as never before for all kinds and conditions of dress for young and old. For a skating costume or dress that is likely to encounter hard usage it will not pay to purchase any but the best qualities, which really are rain-proof, or, rather, are not injured by being wet and will not tear on the slightest provocation. A long ulster of golden brown corduroy with collar and cuffs of some inexpensive fur will look extremely smart with a simple one piece frock of the same color and texture, a color which in corduroy is becoming to every type.

Small hats are the accepted style this year to go with a skating dress. The most

attractive of the skating hats for young girls are the familiar crush velvet or beaver cloth crown of some bright hue, bordered with a band of skunk or some other fur which is in keeping with the rest of the costume. To make this hat more youthful a flower may be fastened in against the fur on one side. An all fur toque is also pretty with a smart little corduroy gown for the skating rink on "members' day." A hat of this model a girl can easily make for herself by simply covering a wire or canvas frame with a piece of velvet or cloth of pretty color and then sewing about the brim a strip of fur. If there is an old muff or neckpiece that can be cut up for this purpose so much the better.

Of all colors red looks most attractive on the ice, and the red suits in rough material are especially smart this winter. But the red must be a true color, with real warmth in its tones, and the brighter the shade the more charming it is. Brown is smart in the velvets, but not in cloths; green is attractive when it is becoming (which is seldom); blue is in vogue because it is a color which is never really out of fashion; dark gray is worn only by older persons this year, while black relieved with red or brilliant blue is worn by quite young girls, but is a combination that really is not appropriate. The brighter the color the more attractive for a young girl's skating dress. She can wear the sombre tones all the rest of her life, and it is the greatest pity for her not to take advantage of her youthful charm and dress it to its best advantage in the brilliant hues which later on she will not be able to carry off half so well. Fortunately it is the warm, bright colors which are most in fashion's favor for young people this year, while older persons keep to less striking shades.

## Quaint Styles in Bedroom Slippers.

SATIN and soft kid bedroom slippers can be made doubly attractive by simply adding a dainty frill of lace all about the top. While these newest slippers are, of course, expensive, the effect can easily be obtained by dressing up any pair of pretty satin mules or slippers in this way. The prettiest worsted and knitted slippers are now also finished with a shirring of lace at the top to make them different from the regular bed slipper, the same world over. The mules bordered at the top with a frill of lace are then finished with a little lace rosette, with perhaps a tiny cluster of ribbon flowers tucked in the centre.

Almost as expensive as the slipper itself are the rosettes that adorn it, but any girl can fashion her own rosettes for her evening slippers and save considerable in the process. First of all she should supply herself with a piece of buckram or canvas, as without a stiff foundation it is impossible to make the rosette keep its shape well. The different parts of the bow are all sewed securely to this foundation before it is turned to the slipper.

Silver lace with a cluster of ribbon flowers in the centre the color of the gown makes an attractive finish for a satin or light kid slipper. Gold on a yellow slipper is extremely pretty, and if desired for a special gown metal laces can generally be found in different colored threads. The lace should be about an inch in width and is simply gathered about the flowers in the centre or else made into a flat bowknot with the ribbon flowers for the centre part. The rosette generally carries out some scheme of color or trimming on the gown, tongue, or

but often it introduces a note of sharp contrast. For a blue frock, for example, the blue slippers are frequently adorned with a cluster of little pink roses with leaves of silver lace. All lace flowers, the edges held in shape by invisible wire, are also attractive and especially pretty when carried out in gold or silver thread lace.

Round rosettes are not so much used this year as those which are slightly oblong. About two and a half inches is long enough, however, and the bow-knot or rosette, whichever is used, should be placed as far forward as possible on the slipper to make it look small. Ribbon flowers are used altogether this winter in the slipper trimmings instead of the cotton imitation flowers.

## GUARDING THE TONGUE.

HOW many of us have the tongue strictly—taking—anything without having the tip of one's tongue visible, and nearly as active as one's fingers!

Watch your young friends for awhile when they are busy about something and see how many of them show their tongues. Watch yourself and see if you do it. You may find that you do not, but it will astonish you to see how many there are who do. It is not a pretty habit, you will observe, for there is nothing attractive about a tongue protruding. If you do not know whether you have this practice or not summon a little thought sentinel from your brain and put him on guard at any time. If he reports a visible tongue at any time, go and look at yourself in the glass. You will keep that little sentinel on duty, until you have cured yourself of the scheme of color or trimming on the gown, tongue, or